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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q60961

Hidekuni MORIYA, et al.

Allowed: March 13, 2006

Appln. No.: 09/674,638

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 8917

Examiner: Stephen M BRINICH

Filed: November 02, 2000

For: IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINING APPARATUS, IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINING METHOD, AND MEDIUM RECORDING THEREON IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINATION CONTROL PROGRAM

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

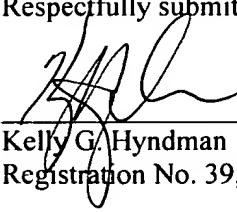
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Kelly G. Hyndman
Registration No. 39,234

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 27, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sheet

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of

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/674,638
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Filing Date	November 02, 2000
First Named Inventor	Hidekuni MORIYA
Art Unit	2624
Examiner Name	Stephen M BRINICH
Attorney Docket Number	Q60961

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	09-266539	A	10-07-1997	Minolta Co. LTD	Yes
		JP	01-196975	A	08-08-1989	Konica Corporation	English Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office, except for the following: U.S. 82/387,988, 6,760,151, 6,286,016, 6,967,4638
91 FC:1886 189.00 OP
patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/674,638

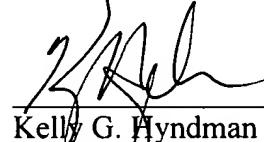
Attorney Docket No. Q60961

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly G. Hyndman
Registration No. 39,234

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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		Art Unit	2624
		Examiner Name	Stephen M BRINICH
		Attorney Docket Number	Q60961

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